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The Various Events on the Occa-

Reception at the Palace - The Cahu Railway Co.'s Opening - The Balloon Ascension.

Last Saturday, the 16th inst., was the 53d anniversary of the birth of David Kalakana, King of the Hawaiian Islands, and as such was noticed as usual, as an official holiday. In times past the day has been celebrated with considerable eclat, a programme of events being presented which occupied and amused an three hundred tickets had been disinterested public from early dawn till al- tributed. On His Majesty's birthday the most dewy eve. This year the events road was opened for general travel and were few in number and they were chiefly to forward private enterprise. The weather was clear and pleasant and although a strong wind blew from the north-east no dust was visible. The day was an exceptionally pleasant one and was in marked contrast to those of previous years. But little decoration was visible in town, flags flying from the being of three strips of bunting, red, blue, flagstaffs of the engine houses. On the red, the upper right hand corner showbay, however, the flag-bedecked men-ofwar presented a gay appearance. The

war ships fired a salute at noon. The Receptions.

The first official event of the day was the reception by their Majesties of the several native societies the members of which walked in procession and presented the usual "hookupu." The offerings made were, some of them, quite rich in value and unique in character. This reception lasted from 8:30 to 10 a. m., after which at 11 a. m. preparations were made to receive the general public. The hours having been set at which the various dignitaries, officials and others would be received there was but little delay occasioned on the part of those

whose presence was expected. The visitors were received at the main entrance by Mr. J. W. Robertson, Vice Chamberlain, and by him conducted to the throne room, where they were presented by Col. G. W. Macfarlane, His Majesty's Chamberlain, to their Majesties the King and Queen. The Chancellor and the President of the Legislative Assembly, the Cabinet Minister, Judges of the Supreme Court, diplomatic dean of the consular corps took position cers of the war vessels and Hawaiian officials were assigned a position on the opposite side, and the general circle at the lower end of the room, from where a good view of the presentations that took place. The throne room presented a very brilliant appearance, the mingling of the naval uniforms adding greatly

to the scene. The reception ended at Among those who presented their respects to their Majesties on this occasion were: H. R. H. Princess Liliuokalani, Hon. A. S. Cleghorn, His Honor the Chief Justice and members of the Supreme Court, their Excellencies the Minister of Finance, the Minister of Interior, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, and the Attorney general, Hon. W. R. Cas-tle the President of the Legislature, members of the diplomatic service, Rear Admiral Kimberly and staff, Capt. J. Bishop and officers of the U.S.S. Iroquois, Capt. J. G. Greene and officers of the U. S. S. Alert, Capt. J. B. Coghlan and officers of the U. S. S. Mohican,

F. G. Fillette of the U. S. S. Nipsic. Those who registered were: Professor W. D. Alexander, Hop. J.B. Atherton, Hon. C. Afong and Miss Alice Afong, Mr. C. Alee, Chinese Commercial Agent, Alatau T. Atkinson, Misses Zoe

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Hon. J. D. Walker, and Miss Maggie last piece in the pr Walker, J. T. Waterhouse Jr., Mr. and Sanylet's concert.

THE KING'S BIRTHDAY. Mrs. F. L. Winter, Mr. and Mrs. J. N. S. Williams, Miss Mary Wohi, Mr. G. West.

It is not often that corporations, which

The People's Picnic.

are, as a rule, reported to have no soul, come forward in the manner that the Oahu Railway Co. did through their Manager, B. F. Dillingham, and offer the public generally an opportunity to enjoy themselves. Such is the case, however, in connection with the free ride given to everybody on the 16th inst. over the road, as far as finished, of the Oahu Railway Co. The public had been informed several days previously of the coming event and over three thousand on that day the neatly designed station at I wilei was brought more directly to public notice. From the flagstaffs on the three towers on the roof there floated flags, the eastern one displaying the colors of the United States, the western those of Hawaii, while from the centre waved the corporation flag, the body ing the distinctive seal, a circle of white, the outer edge bound by a double ring of black, the rings being crossed by ties, within, the initials of the company, Oahu Railway & Land Company. Attentive and obliging officials were on hand during the entire day to forward the comfort of the thousands who were present, Manager Dillingham, Secretary Geo. W. Ashley, Superintendant Jennings, each aided the other. The first cut loose. Cheer upon cheer was given ipulating the throttle while conductor To this train was attached one closed and four open cars carrying two hundred people. From this on, trains stop! On goes the parachute, on goes were dispatched with fair regularity a the balloon. Now appears the danger, total of nearly 4,000. A representative of the Advertiser took a ride on the en- just twenty-nine minutes and trip and noticed that every care had Joe Van Tassell has been switchmen were on hand at the proper Ministers, the American Admiral, staff and well. The scenery is well worthy friend at Punchbowl Hill and now he is and captains of warships in port, and inspection and it opens to view a section of country but previously little known. on the right of His Majesty. The offi- The band played during the afternoon and the best patronized place on the 16th, was the station of the Oahu Land and Railway Co.

The Balloon Ascension. Everything had been arranged for a balloon ascension and parachute jump by Prof. Joseph L. Van Tassell, and Hawaii was off Diamond Head with His notice was given at 1:30 p.m., according to previous arrangement, from the fire bell at the Tower, that the ascension would take place. The balloon had been located at the foot of Punchbowl Hill in the quarry, very near the spot from which Professor Melville had made his very successful ascension. The inflation commenced about 2 o'clock and the big bag was quickly filled. Quite a number of persons were present to witness the inflation which was conducted in a rapid and very satisfactory manner. At 2:19 p. m. the aeronant declared himself ready and with a pleasant wave of the band to a few friends he straddled the iron bar of the parachute and grasping the ropes gave the order "let go" and started on his ride to-death. Elsewhere the details are given of the events leading up to the

sad catastrophe.

Baseball Matches. The lovers of baseball had two opportunities given them during the afternoon of the 16th to witness the evolutions on the diamond. The first game was called at 1:30 o'clock, and was between the Valley Boys and the Kamehameha, Jrs., Hon. W. A. Kinney acting as umpire. It was plain to be seen that from the It was plain to be seen that from the had jumped into eternity and start the Valley Boys were greatly overhad added his name to the matched, and in consequence the game list of those daring spirits of his pro-was somewhat tame to onlookers. Following was the score by innings:

Kam'ham'ha 1 0 0 2 2 4 2 4 0-15 heard up to a late hour last night. On Valley Boys 0 0 0 0 0 2 0 1 0-3 the night of the awful occurrence sup-The second game was between the Aliiolanis and the Iwilies, and game was called at 3:30 o'clock; Maj. R.W. Parker acting as umpire. The game, although showing a more even score than the previous one, was very loosely played, errors being made by nearly every member of both nines. Following is the score by innings. Aliiolanis ... 3 2 2 2 1 0 0 0 1-11 I willes 0 3 0 0 4 0 0 0 0-7

Busy Band Boys.

Professor Berger and his boys were kept pretty busy on the 16th, in exercising their pneumatic and musical ability and knowledge, they being kept almost 5 p. m. The business of the Band for the ropes became twisted and he could not day was commenced at 8:30 a. m., a jump, the balloon soared upward to such concert being given during the reception by their Majesties of various native Hawaiian societies and native friends. This lower portion of the equator, deconcert lasted until 10 a. m. From 11
a. m. till 1:30 p. m. they were on duty
at the general reception. Rapid transit
was made from the Palace to the depot
of the Oahu Railway Co., where business
and leaves a mother two brothers and was again commenced at 2 p. m., ending at 5 p. m. Just for a change, the boys ended their day's work by playing the last piece in the programme at Professor Namylet's concent

HIS LAST LEAP.

Prof. J. L. Van Tassell's Parachute Jump Into Eternity.

Another Name Added to the Death Roll of Aeronauts.

One of the great events with which it

was intended to celebrate His Majesty's birthday, the 16th inst., was a balloon ascension and parachute jump, by Prof. Joseph L. Van Tassell. All the arrangements had been perfected and at 2:19 o'clock the youthful aeronaut started skyward attached by his parachute to the well-filled balloon. The point of starting was so well sheltered from the brisk trade wind that was blowing that the balloon had an excellent opportunity to rise upward which it did to a height estimated at between five and six thousand feet. The balloon now caught the force of the trade wind and commenced to set slowly towards the south-west, passing over the Palace at which point it had been arranged by the aeronaut he would cut loose and begin his descent. Thousands of upturned faces watched the actions of the intrepid and daring professor and the thought, even then, was that he would make his descent in safety. Slowly the balloon passed to a point directly over the corner of Richard and King streets where it was discernable, now at 2:22 o'clock after being up three train with five closed and two open cars at this completion of the promise given carrying about 300 people hauled away that a parachute jump would be made. at this completion of the promise given from the station at 7 a. m. drawn by The parachute however instead of comthe engine Kaala, engineer Clark man- ing, as was hoped, directly earthwards seemed on the contrary to have John Coakley performed the duties been, caught by the trade wind appertaining to that position. The train and lifted upward, and also drifted received quite hearty cheering as it rapidly towards the sea. And now comdrew out, and soon was speeding on its | menced a race between the balloon and way. The next train was attached to parachute to seaward, the parachute the engine under charge of Engineer with its living freight for the first few Kent, L. L. Lepeirre acting as conductor. minutes appearing to be equal in height with the balloon. The lighthouse is total of four round trips being made by there is no provision for assistance, the each engine the trains carrying a gross parachute is now two miles from shore and still receding. At last he drops, tis gine with Engineer Kent on the noon een seconds past two o'clock. Prof. been taken to prevent accident. Track minutes and eighteen seconds in walkers were placed at suitable distances; the air and has sailed over nearly five miles of space; it is on time and everything worked smoothly minutes since he shook hands with a in the water off Kalihi harbor. Five minutes afterwards the balloon drops, its rotund form being plainly visible to the crowds that line the wharves, that swarm in the rigging of the vessels, with glasses. No view can be obtained of the parachute or aeronaut. Two sail boats, the Kahihilani and a cutter belonging to H. B. M. S. Espeigle, were in the harbor entrance, and the occupants noticed the aeronaut drifting to seaward. The yacht Excellency the Minister of the Interior on board. All three turned toward the spot where poor Joe Van Tassell had fallen. Captain Rice of the tug Eleu ordered steam, but a necessary delay of twenty-five minutes clapsed before the vessel left the dock on her errand of rescue, having on board amongst others Prof. P. T. Van Tassell professional associate of the missing aeronaut, Mr. F. Frost, Wray Taylor of the Bulletin and an ADVERTISER representative. From 3 o'clock until 5:30 search, diligent and careful was made, the sail-boats cruising in different courses, Minister Thurston in the "Hawaii" going well in shore and making circles that covered all probable points. A boat's crew from the Myrtle club consisting of Messrs. Alex. Robertson, G. Bruns, J. H. Reist and W. Charlock augmented the search party by their presence and pulled to the located spot where the ill-fated balloonist had ended his young life and long leap together. No trace of man or parachute could be found however and after the balloon itself was picked up and taken on board the Eleu, start was made for Honolulu all hope of rescue being destroyed. The homeward journey was made with a sharp lookout but without result the only news given to the anxious enquirers on the wharf being that Prof. Joseph Lawrence Van Tassell had made his last leap, jority. Rumors of different kinds were heard up to a late hour last night. On posable correct information caused Mr. F. Frost, the manager of the aeronauts, and an ADVERTISER representative, to take a midnight trip to the Quarantine station, but without good result. Yes-terday Major Parker, with a boat's crew. visited and searched Mokuoeo island off Kalihi, but with like effect. Joseph Lawrence (professional Prof. J. L. Van Tassell) the lost aeronaut, was a

native of Salem, Ohio. He has been professionally connected with Prof. P. T. Van Tassell, for six months past during which time he has made several parachute jumps and made four straight balloon ascensions. The lost aeronaut had had, previously several very narrow escapes, on one occasion (see S. F. Examiner October 13th) in a split from the bottom to the lower portion of the equator, dethree sisters, who will greatly mourn his sudden departure to the land of shadows. To them is tendered the heartfelt sympathy of the residents of this mid-Paci-fic island kingdom.